

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 03967 211237Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DHA-02 MCT-01  
TRSE-00 /055 W  
-----211242Z 123022 /45

O R 211159Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 401  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION NATO  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3967

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SP  
SUBJECT: POLITICAL ROUND-UP: GOVT OFFERS EXILE TO THOSE IMPRISONED  
FOR BLOOD CRIMES; YBARRA KIDNAPPERS STILL UNIDENTIFIED;  
KING MEETS WITH FELIPE GONZALEZ

REF: MADRID 3937, 3960

1. FOLLOWING THE MAY 20 CABINET MEETING, THE GOVT  
RELEASED A STATEMENT OFFERING EXILE ABROAD (REFS) TO  
THOSE IMPRISONED FOR BLOOD CRIMES (AND THUS INELIGIBLE  
FOR PARDON) WHO REQUEST IT. THE STATEMENT ADDED THAT  
FIVE BASQUE PRISONERS (OF THE EIGHT IN THAT CATEGORY)  
HAVE ALREADY MADE THE REQUEST, AND PRESS REPORTS SUGGEST  
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THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEM TO BE RECEIVED IN BELGIUM ARE  
IN AN ADVANCED STAGE.

2. RECALLING THE RELEASES ALREADY CARRIED OUT, THE  
GOVT STATEMENT REITERATED A DISPOSITION TO SEE THE  
REGIONAL QUESTION RESOLVED BUT (AS BEFORE) SAID  
DEFINITIVE SOLUTIONS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE BY THE

FREELY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE. THE STATEMENT ALSO STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF GETTING SAFELY TO THE ELECTIONS, AND "INSISTED" THAT THE RIGHT OF DEMONSTRATIONS NOT BE EXIERCIZED UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTIONS GIVE THE EVIDENCE OF MANIPULATION BY EXTREMIST GROUPS. (PRESUMABLY THIS DOES NOT REFER TO ORDINARY, CAMPAIGN-RELATED MEETINGS AND RALLIES).

3. NO ONE HAD YET CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE KIDNAPPING OF BILBAO INDUSTRIALIST (AND FORMER MAYOR) JAVIER YBARRA. BASQUE AND NATION-WIDE PARTIES ACROSS THE SPECTRUM HAVE CONDEMNED THE ACTION AS HARMFUL TO THE BASQUE CASUE AND A DNAGER TO THE PEACEFUL REALIZATION OF THE JUNE 15 ELECTIONS.

4. KING JUAN CARLOS MET MAY 20 FOR OVER 90 MINUTES WITH FELIPE GONZALEZ, THE LEADER OF SPAIN'S PRINCIPAL SOCIALIST PARTY, THE EUROPEAN-RECOGNIZED PSOE, IN A MEETING THAT WAS LONG OVERDUE. NO SPECIFICS WERE AVAILABLE, BUT REPORTEDLY GONZALEZ PUT FORTH HIS VIEWS ON AMNESTY, CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE, THE ECONOMIC SITUATION, AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, WE PRESUME ALONG THE LINES HE GAVE THE THE AMBASSADOR (MADRID 3115). PSOE SPOKESMEN SUGGESTED AMNESTY WAS THE PRINCIPAL REASON FOR THE MEETING, BUT WE JUDGE THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE CONVERSATION (ASIDE FROM THE FEEL EACH ACQUIRED FOR THE OTHER) DEALT WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS AND GONZALEZ' VIEW THAT THE NEW CORTES SHOULD ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF THE MONARCHY DIRECTLY, SECURE IN THE KNOWLEDGE  
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THAT IT WOULD PASS OVERWHELMINGLY, THUS GRANTING THE MONARCHY LEGITIMACY IN A DEMOCRATIC DECISION WHICH THE "REPUBLICAN" PSOE WOULD THEN GLADLY ACCEPT. THE MEETING RECALLED ONE THE KING HELD WITH RIVAL SOCIALIST (PSP) LEADER TIerno GALVAN SOME WEEKS AGO, WHICH AT THE TIME WAS BILLED AS THE FIRST OF SEVERAL THE KING WOULD HOLD WITH PROMINENT OPPOSITION FIGURES, AND WHICH WAS FOLLOWED BY ONE WITH CATALAN LEADER ANTON CANYELLAS.STABLER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
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